

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301

Feb. 25, 2011

Contact: Chris Mackey

Office: (919) 733-5612

Bluestar Silicones to Bring 125 Jobs to Mecklenburg County
State Grant Helps Manufacturer Locate in Charlotte

RALEIGH – Gov. Bev Perdue today announced that Bluestar Silicones, a fully integrated global silicones manufacturer, will locate a new facility in Mecklenburg County. The company plans to create 125 jobs and invest \$19.8 million during the next three years in Charlotte. The project was made possible in part by a \$340,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund.

“North Carolina’s reputation for a top-ranked business climate continues to attract high-tech manufacturers like Bluestar,” said Gov. Perdue. “The creation of these high-paying jobs is terrific news for the Charlotte community and underscores the value of the region’s – and the state’s – highly skilled workers.”

Bluestar Silicones provides specialty silicone products to the automotive, paper and packaging, aerospace, personal care, healthcare, tire and rubber, textile coatings, mold making and energy industries. Headquartered in China, Bluestar maintains operations in China, Europe, Latin America and the United States. The company plans to consolidate manufacturing operations in other states into a single facility at the former Virkler Chemical site in Charlotte.

Salaries will vary by job function, but the average annual wage for the new jobs will be \$62,040 plus benefits. The Mecklenburg County average annual wage is \$51,584.

“We are excited about this move to Mecklenburg County and appreciate the efforts of North Carolina to make this a win-win for both North Carolina and Bluestar Silicones,” said J. Christopher York, president, Bluestar Silicones North America. “For Bluestar Silicones, this move is an important step in implementing an aggressive growth strategy to become a world leading supplier of silicones in the coming five years.”